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| SERIALIZED | INDEXED |
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| Zeichen/Ref./Réf. KMN/FP4858080 | Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 00302763.8-2214 |
| Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire Ajinomoto Co., Inc. | |

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

- Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

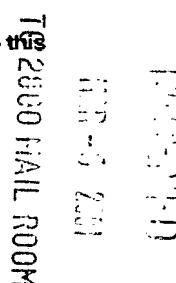
The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

abstract title

- The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

1C, 1D, 1E



REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 00 30 2763

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| EPO FORM 1501/03/82 (PacCo1) | CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS | | |
| | X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document | | |
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| D,A | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 03, 29 March 1996 (1996-03-29) & JP 07 304933 A (TAIYO INK MFG), 21 November 1995 (1995-11-21) * abstract * | 1-3,5,6 | |
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 00 30 2763

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
 The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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